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I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS  
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ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, ON  
DATE OF DEPOSIT: May 21, 2001  
EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE NO: ET193030875US  
PERSON MAKING DEPOSIT: ANNE VACHON DOUGHERTY

*Anne Vachon Dougherty* 5/21/01  
Signature & Date

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MAY 25 2001

Technology Center 2100

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of : May 21, 2001  
V. Castelli, et al : Group Art No.: 2172  
Serial No. 09/237,646 : Examiner: C. Truong  
Filed: January 26, 1999 : for IBM Corporation  
Anne Vachon Dougherty  
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS 3173 Cedar Road  
FOR SIMILARITY RETRIEVAL Yorktown Heights, NY 10598  
FROM ITERATIVE REFINEMENT

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME  
FOR RESPONSE (37 CFR 1.17(a))

Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants respectfully submit a Petition for Extension  
of Time for Response (37 CFR 1.17(a)). The period for  
response to the Office Action in the above-identified

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application, which was set to expire on March 19, 2001, will now expire on May 21, 2001. Applicants include a check in the amount of \$390.00 as payment for the two month extension.

Respectfully submitted,

V. Castelli, et al

By: Anne Vachon Dougherty  
Anne Vachon Dougherty  
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Tel. (914) 962-5910

Enclosures